

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/927,201

Examiner

Yogesh K. Aggarwal

Applicant(s)

BAER, RICHARD L.

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/20/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-11,14-17,20,21,24,25 (The claims have been renumbered as 1-10,12,11,13-17 respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

VIVEK SRIVASTAVA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 4-11, 14-17, 20, 21, 24 and 25 are allowed.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:
3. The prior art of record, neither anticipates nor renders obvious the following limitations as claimed:

[Claim 1]: A method for removing image artifacts from an image of a scene illuminated by a light source, said image represented by image data, the method comprising; determining a flicker function, wherein said flicker function is a function of flicker frequency, determined from a product of the frame period and a line frequency in cycles per image frame of said light source, flicker amplitude and flicker phase of said light source, and processing said image data using said flicker function so as to remove image artifacts from said image, wherein said image data comprises an image data array comprised of a plurality of rows of image data, and wherein said processing step comprises dividing said image data by said flicker function on a row-by-row basis.

[Claims 11, 17 and 21]: The reasons of allowance for these claims are similar to claim 1.

[Claim 15]: "A method for removing image artifacts from an image of a scene illuminated by a periodically varying light source, said image represented by an image data array comprising a plurality of rows of image data, the method comprising:

determining a flicker function that models light emission of the periodically varying light source, wherein said flicker function is a function of flicker amplitude, flicker frequency and flicker phase of the periodically varying light source, and

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processing said image data using said flicker function so as to remove said image artifacts from said image, wherein said periodically varying light source comprises a fluorescent light source, and wherein said flicker function, expressed in terms of row number of the rows of said image data array is: $f(j) = 1 + \alpha \sin^2(j\omega T_f/N + \phi)$ where α is a flicker amplitude, ω is a flicker frequency, ϕ is flicker phase, T_f is frame period, and N is a number of rows per image frame.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yogesh K. Aggarwal whose telephone number is (571) 272-7360. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava can be reached on (571)-272-7304. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.




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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

YKA
June 8, 2007



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